MONTEREY NEWS

October 2012
VOLUME XLII · Number 10

Glynis Marsh

Will Marsh

The Monterey General Store reopened at last on September 19, and everyone is happy. Laury Epstein expressed the general feelings this way: "The new Monterey General Store was worth the wait. It's marvelously cleaned up and well stocked, and the food is delicious. I hadn't realized how lonesome I was for local company until the store reopened and now I see people I haven't seen in far too long. Sociability is back in town, and that makes me very happy!" Now it's time to support our store!

The Town

by Susan Gallant

Pomp, Circumstance, Pastry

The September 10th Select Board meeting opened with a bit more fanfare than usual. State Senator Ben Downing and Representative Smitty Pignatelli, among others, were present to witness the official raising of the Monterey flag. Select Board chair Scott Jenssen also presented Rep. Pignatelli with a Monterey flag that will take its place among the other flags of the cities and towns in the commonwealth that hang in the Great Hall of the Massachusetts State House in Boston. The Great Hall, completed in 1990, is the newest addition to the State House and is used to hold state functions.

Scott also explained how Monterey's town seal was chosen for our flag. Select Board member Wayne Burkhart credited Inter-Departmental Secretary Melissa Noe for her efforts in coordinating the flag-creation process. To top off the morning's ceremonies, all those present were treated to a wonderful array of pastries from the Harvest Barn at Gould Farm.

For those who would like their very own Flag of Monterey, smaller versions of the Monterey flag are still available at Town Hall for $10 each.

Tree Harmony

The trees and residents of Monterey can again breathe a sigh of relief, for an interim tree warden has been appointed! Roger Tryon joined the September 10th meeting to offer a letter of interest in the position. Roger was then given a draft of the job description, created by Shaylan Burkhart and Maynard Forbes, to make sure he understood and agreed to the responsibilities and requirements of tree

warden. That being done, the Select Board went on to nominate, second, and approve the appointment unanimously.

Our Own Social Network

Thanks to the diligent work of Melissa Noe, Monterey now has an official Facebook page. Check in on the page for important and timely announcements and reminders. As of September 26, thirty people have "liked" Monterey. So log on to www.facebook.com/pages/Town-of-Monterey-Town-Hall/419188961476591 and "like" us!

Progress Continues on Beartown

Also on September 10, the Select Board opened the sealed bids from Tri-Town Paving, LB Corp., Lane Corp., and W.E. Williams Paving for paving Beartown Mountain Road.

After reviewing all the bids, Director of Operations Maynard Forbes determined that Tri-Town Paving of Lee submitted the lowest bid. The Select Board then unanimously approved acceptance of Tri-Town's bid. Forbes will notify Tri-Town, and paving should begin in early October.

Pole Position

On September 17, the Select Board opened the joint pole hearing for Beartown Mountain Road. As a result of the work being done on Beartown, the Highway Department has requested that nearby electrical poles be moved and a new one added. Anthony Corsi from National Grid joined the meeting to answer any questions and to explain that because the poles are so close to water, the Conservation Commission also needs to grant permission for the work to be done. Maynard Forbes is in favor of the project that National Grid laid out and has no objections. After reviewing the plans, the Select Board unanimously approved the pole request.

Contact Maynard Forbes with any questions about the new pole locations.

A Call for Volunteers

Select Board chair Scott Jenssen has put out a call for volunteers to participate in a beautification project for Monterey. Scott noted that in the past people have come forward with the idea of placing flowering plants in whiskey barrels (empty whiskey barrels, that is) in certain strategic points throughout the town, such as the entrances of Routes 23 and 57, and at the town lines on River and Sandisfield Roads.

Monterey's towering trees, verdant pastures, and babbling brooks and rivers make this quite the daunting challenge! So those of you who are up to the task of making Monterey even more beautiful than it already is should submit your names at Town Hall.

Tax Work-Off for Seniors

Monterey homeowners who are sixty years and older and are interested in finding out what jobs are available for the tax-abatement program can go to www.montereyma.gov for a list of job descriptions.

Notary Of Note

Notary public services are available, free of charge, at town hall from Melissa Noe, who recently renewed her certificate.

Police News: Alarms, Mushrooms

At the September 24th Select Board meeting Police Chief Gareth Backhaus noted that there have been a number of calls from homes that turned out to be false alarms. He believes that this is the result of second homeowners giving unique codes to their homes' caretakers without first making sure these new codes work. When the codes are punched in and are not recognized by the security system, an automatic

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call goes out to the police department that must be responded to. Homeowners are requested to make sure that security codes are recognized by their systems and are in proper working order.

One other incident that Chief Backhaus wanted to bring to everyone's attention is an issue of larceny. One of our residents who grows a very special mushroom, the name of which shall remain anonymous, has had two incidents of said mushrooms being snatched just at the time they are ready to be harvested. This repeated act of theft is no doubt frustrating and maddening to the person being robbed, and Chief Backhaus wants to remind anyone who has or is contemplating such activity that acts such as these are punishable offenses.

Chief Backhaus also reported on the following recent police activity:

- Purse found at a vegetable stand returned to owner.
- False alarms on Beartown, Mt. Hunger, Sylvan, and Art School Roads.
- Lifeguard called to report a truck parked at Lake Garfield launch.
- Suspicious person call on North Cove; not found but believed to be a bird-watcher.
- Assisted Fire Department with calls on Art School and Gould Roads.
- Numerous harassment complaints on Blue Hill Road.
- Motor vehicle accident at intersection of Hupi and Elephant Rock Roads.
- Well-being check on Gould Road.

Angelica Collins

Socializing at the fourth annual Monterey Movie Night before the screening of The Wizard of Oz *on the big screen in Greene Park. The Parks Department is now taking suggestions for next summer's showing. Please email your suggestions to monterey-parks@verizon.net.*

- Loose cows, New Marlborough Road.
- Compliment received from a driver who was stopped for speeding and wanted to commend Officer Gonska on his courteous manner.
- Missing cat on West Road.
- Two separate complaints about loose dogs on Brett and Beartown Mountain Roads.
- Motor vehicle accident on Tyringham Road.
- Handbag found on Tyringham Road, returned to owner.

Financial Matters

Town Accountant Steve Pullen and the Select Board discussed what to do with special article monies that have not been spent such as the dog park money, which was only approved to be used at the WMH property. The board approved returning the dog park funds to the general funds. It was agreed that any future proposal would need to go back to town meeting because the money approved a few years back was for a specific location and it has been determined that the dog park cannot be constructed there. The money for the bylaw consultant will be carried over, as will the building department software money.

Mayra Rodriguez and Doreen Beller, organizers of this year's very successful MontereyFest suggested that the funds privately raised for the celebration should go to cover the fireworks ($6,000). The Select Board agreed. The total expenses (minus fireworks) for MontereyFest 2012 totaled $5,200 ($200 over what was approved at town meeting) and the town will pay the agreed-upon $5,000. ॐ

Thai Yoga Bodywork

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SBRSD Elementary Task Force Public Forum Oct. 16

In response to community concern about the future of the outlying schools in the Southern Berkshire Regional School District, the school committee appointed a Task Force of representatives of the five towns in the district.

The Task Force is committed to obtaining as much input as possible from all stakeholders in our schools. To this end, the Task Force has scheduled a series of public forums, with one to be held in each town. Anyone interested in the schools and their programs should come and provide suggestions, wishes, and/or dreams for the future of elementary education in the district. Members of the Task Force will be present at these meetings to share the results of their work to date.

The following questions are provided to make it easier for participants to engage in this process:

1. What do you want for your child that your school does not provide?

2. What do you want the school to do for you? How would you like to interact with the school?

3. How do we maintain a sense of community and make parents want to stay and help to maintain their community?

4. What role do you want the community to play in the school/district? What do you want the school/district to do for the community?

5. How would you prioritize what you want for the schools?

An online stakeholder survey is also being developed and will be posted on the Task Force website on the district home page soon.

As residents and taxpayers in our communities, we recognize that our schools are our greatest asset and that we have a responsibility to them and to our children. As stakeholders, you, members of the community, are invited to participate in determining their brightest possible future and the optimum use of our schools. The meetings will take place as follows:

Sheffield: Dewey Hall, Sunday, October 14, 7:30 pm.

Monterey: Town Hall, Tuesday, October 16, 6:30 pm.

New Marlborough: Town Hall, TBD.

South Egremont: Fire Station, TBD.

Alford: Fire Station**,** TBD.

Monterey School Building Study Committee

In the past few years, all attempts by the Southern Berkshire Regional School District to close our Monterey school, currently an Early K-Kindergarten program, have been met with great resistance. At the 2008 annual town meeting, a motion to close the school was defeated almost unanimously. Last January, nearly one hundred people attended a public hearing and vociferously opposed the closing of the Monterey School, as well as the schools in New Marlborough and South Egremont. Despite the low enrollment in the school, many contend that it is important that a school be part of our community.

Our one room schoolhouse, quaint as it may be, is getting older by the minute, and although happy children are receiving an excellent education there, it is only a matter of a couple of more years before it will be an undesirable and probably unsafe place for our children. Given the condition of the building and the support for keeping a school open in Monterey, the Select Board appointed a Monterey School Building Study Committee last May. The committee is to explore the options available to make it possible for us to continue to house a school in our town.

The committee began by looking at the most recent building evaluation, which was submitted to the school district in 2006. At that time, the estimate for repairing and renovating the school was over $420,000. We then met with Fred Finkle, head of SBRSD buildings and operations, and toured the school. It was clear very little had been fixed since the report, and there were new problems and further deterioration. In addition, the initial report did not address parking or handicap access from the street. The six-year-old figure of $420,000 is no longer a realistic number.

The committee came to a consensus that it would not be wise to spend such a large sum of money trying to renovate the current building. It would make much more sense to build from scratch. We then considered various sites that could be available should the townspeople wish to move

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ANNOUNCING OUR NEW DIVISION: VACATION RENTALS

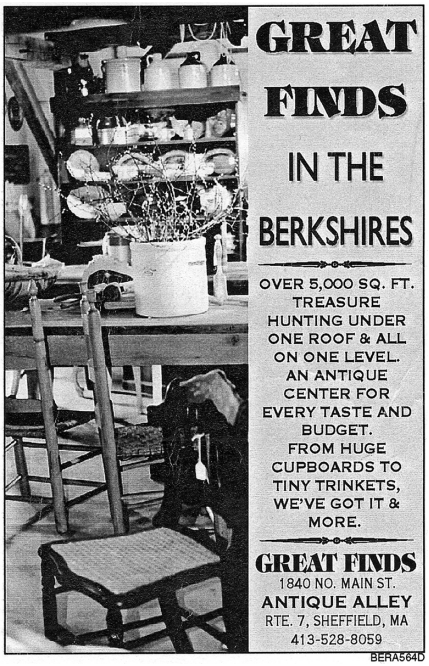
forward with this project. The current site is not ideal for topographical reasons and parking needs. Other town lands that can be considered are the Greene Park area all the way up behind the firehouse (off Fox Hill Road) and the Wilson/McLaughlin property (located at the corner of New Marlborough and Main Roads).

At this point, the committee feels the Wilson property is the best location to pursue a building project. It is close to the town center, has some infrastructure, and could be part of a complex that already contains a community garden and soon-to-be-opened community center. Additionally, a town building on that site could more easily be transformed into a place for other municipal purposes should the time come when a school is no longer viable in the town.

We are working on calculating a ballpark estimate for the cost. We then plan to meet with the Finance Committee to discuss the financial implications of such a large project. We have asked and are continuing to ask for public input. Do the people of Monterey support a building project in which we could house a school program?

Our next scheduled committee meeting is on Monday, October 22, at 5:30 pm at Town Hall. Please come and let us know how you feel about this possible project and share any ideas you have.

—Maryellen Brown, Mari Enoch, Scott Jenssen, Tika Roland, Cheryl Zellman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Monterey Member Needed for SBRSD Superintendent Screening Committee

The Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee is creating a Superintendent Screening Committee and would like one fulltime resident from each district town to serve on it. This committee member will provide input for Monterey into the search for a new superintendent for our district. Anyone interested in serving on this committee must commit to attending meetings/interviews on all of the following dates/times:

Thursday, December 13, 6–8:30 pm
Thursday, December 20, 6–8:30 pm
Tuesday, January 8, 6–9:15 pm
Wednesday, January 9, 6–9:15 pm
Thursday, January 10, 6–9:15 pm
Monday, January 14, 6–9:15 pm
Tuesday, January 15, 6–9:15 pm

Anyone interested should email the Monterey Select Board at townmont@verizon.net to schedule an interview, or call 528-1443 x111 prior to October 15.

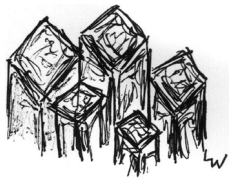
From the Tax Collector

The fiscal year 2013 Real Estate and Personal Property second quarter tax bills have been mailed and are due **November 1, 2012**. If you do not receive your bill, please contact the tax collector's office (413-528-1443 x117). Those taxpayers who paid the second quarter with their first-quarter payment will not be receiving bills.

Payments may be mailed to PO Box 241, Monterey, MA 01245, paid online at www.montereyma.gov, or brought to the town hall.

The Tax Collector's office hours are Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Payments may also be left with the interdepartmental secretary when the Tax Collector's office is closed.

—Mari Enoch, Tax Collector



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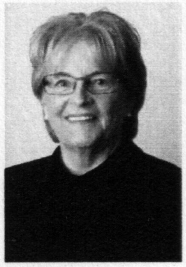

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Flu Shot Clinic Oct. 11

A seasonal flu shot clinic with the Berkshire VNA will be held on Thursday, October 11, from 1:30 to 2:30 pm in the Monterey Town Hall Meeting Room. The cost is $20.00, or it is free if you have Medicare or MassHealth (you must bring your card).

No appointment is necessary. Participants must be 18 years of age or older. Pneumococcal vaccine will be available for those eligible. Wear short sleeves, and don't forget to bring your Medicare/ MassHealth card with you.

Free Chair Yoga Class Begins Oct. 30

The Monterey Parks Department, in association with the Council on Aging, will sponsor a chair yoga class. It will be held in the meeting room at Town Hall on Tuesdays at 10:30 am starting October 30. The initial trial period will be for six weeks. The cost is free to Monterey residents and $7.00 for nonresidents. Connie Wilson will be leading the class. For more information contact Connie at conoverannie@hotmail.com.

Chair yoga allows you to receive all the benefits of yoga without getting down on the floor! Classes will focus on basic stretching exercises, yoga postures, and breathing practices suitable for people of all ages and abilities.

Michele Miller

On the left a two-sticker Obama supporter drives a veggie-oil-powered truck. On the right a NObama sticker on a gas-guzzler.

Community Potluck Resumes Oct. 17

Learn about Honeybees

How far do honeybees fly? What is in royal jelly? Do bees really dance? Find out the answers to these questions and more at the October Community Potluck. Alexandra Tinari, a hobbyist beekeeper who assists with the hives at Gould Farm, will be giving a talk on bees and backyard beekeeping. She will discuss bee biology, behavior, and habitat, current threats to honeybee survival, and beekeeping methods. The talk will include a slide show of beautiful photographs, a display of beekeeping equipment and attire, and, of course, honey samples!

The first Potluck Dinner of the season will be held on October 17, which is the third Wednesday of the month, our normal schedule. Just an early update—the November Potluck will be on the second Wednesday (November 14) this year, because otherwise it would be the night before Thanksgiving (we decided not a great idea).

Hope everybody had a great summer . . . It's still summer as I'm writing this and hard to think about fall and potlucks, but the Monterey Community Potluck Dinner will be at 6 pm on October 17, in the Fellowship Hall of the Monterey Meetinghouse. Please bring a dish to share (we talked last year about bringing local harvest to the first potluck) with a serving utensil and a place setting and silverware for yourself. Everyone is welcome.

—Barbara Dahlman & Kyle Pierce

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Monterey Cultural Council Grants Applications Deadline Oct. 15

Do you have a special talent or know-how that you'd like to share with Monterey? Each year the Monterey Cultural Council, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Cultural Council, offers small grants to prepare a program, event, or experience that will share your art, humanities, cultural, or scientific expertise with our community. In the past, programs have varied from mushroom walks, to song writing, to studio tours. Now it's time for you to invent our cultural opportunities for the coming year (2012–13).

Organizations, schools, and/or individuals can apply for grants. It's simple to apply. These grants can support a variety of artistic cultural, and scientific projects and activities in and near Monterey—including exhibits, festivals, field trips, performances, workshops, and/or lectures. Specific guidelines and complete information with application forms are available online at the Massachusetts Cultural Council website: www.mass-culture.org.

All applications must be postmarked on or before October 15, 2012, to be considered. Send your application to PO Box 282, Monterey, MA 01245

The grants will be awarded on a competitive basis. We hope to include performance and hands-on opportunities that reflect diverse offerings in the arts, and science, and other cultural events of interest. Although we fund regional projects, we prioritize projects that are inclusive and reflective of our town's population and interests.

Contact us for more information: Pat Salomon, drpatsalomon@aol.com, 413-644-8833; or Wendy Jensen, wendyjg@gmail.com, 413-528-4007.

Otis Cultural Council Grants Applications Deadline Oct 15

The Massachusetts Cultural Council has granted $3870 to the Otis Cultural Council (OCC) for 2012–2013. The OCC is now accepting applications for grants. We welcome applications from a variety of artists, musicians, and educators in the Massachusetts area who can provide entertainment, workshops, lectures, or classes for 2013.

Applications for grants, including standard or student field trip grants (formerly called PASS grants), are available online at www.mass-culture.org/Otis# or at the Town of Otis web page for the Cultural Council, www.townofotisma.com.

Completed applications must be mailed to Otis Cultural Council, Otis Town Hall, Box 237, Otis, MA 01253, postmarked no later than October 15, 2012. For information, call Jeanne Randorf (413-269-4251), chair. Or send email inquiries to culturalco.otis@yahoo.com.

Songwriting Workshops Oct. 21, Nov. 4

Join Robin O'Herin and Andy Kelly in a two-part songwriting workshop on Sunday, October 21, and Sunday, November 4, at the Monterey Meetinghouse. Many of you know Robin O'Herin, a sought-after and loved Berkshires performer. She will share some entirely new approaches to creating songs. You'll meet other songwriters, write new songs, share your work and even share your songs in performance. Come and make music happen.

Join Robin and Andy for:

Part I: October 21
6:00–8:00 pm (songwriting workshop)
Part II: November 4
6:00– 7:30 pm (finish songs)
7:30–9:00 pm (open mic; perform songs); public welcome

All ages are welcome. The workshop is free, but please register by calling 413-243-2271.

This workshop is made possible by a grant from the Monterey Cultural Council.

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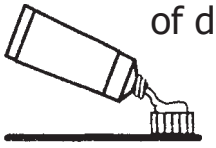

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Monica Webb visiting neighbors on horseback to encourage completion of their WiredWest support cards.

Sixty Seconds for Better Broadband!

Have you taken a minute to complete your support card for WiredWest yet? They were mailed to all Monterey homeowners in September. If you do not have a card, they are also available at the Town Hall, the Monterey Library, and the Monterey General Store. Alternatively, you can complete the form online at the website www.wiredwest.net. Responses are due by October 15, 2012.

WiredWest is a municipal cooperative of forty towns working together on a fiber-optic network in the region to provide state-of-the-art and affordable Internet, phone, video, and other services to homes, businesses, and institutions.

The support card is an important demonstration of interest in the network in each town. We hope you will consider expressing your intent to purchase service from the WiredWest network. Even if you already have services from another provider, note that WiredWest will not only deliver superior Internet service, but your expressed support also helps to ensure access for your fellow residents who currently have no high-speed internet options and creates an alternative for everyone!

If you have any questions, please contact Monterey WiredWest Delegate Monica Webb, monica@wiredwest.net.

—Monica Webb

Community Center News

The Monterey Community Center is getting the lead out, literally and figuratively. Thank you so much to the dozens of friends and neighbors who have generously donated to the capital campaign! The FWMH committee now has sufficient funds to move forward with the next phase of the renovation, the deleading process. We will be sending out forms for bidding on the project shortly, so keep your eyes peeled for work at the site.

We are still accepting online donations via the website at www.ccmonterey.org. You may also mail in a donation to FWMH, P O Box 302, Monterey, MA 01245. Or stop at the town hall to pick up a preprinted envelope and form.

Our village is coming together to make this community center happen. Together we can do it!

—Mary Makuc

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Woven and Fired:
Baskets by Wendy Jensen, Ceramics by Ellen Grenadier at Knox Gallery

The Monterey Library's Knox Gallery will present the work of Monterey residents Wendy Jensen and Ellen Grenadier in an exhibit running from October 5 to November 3. There will be an artists' reception on Friday, October 12, from 6 to 8 pm, where refreshments will be served on ceramic platters and woven baskets!

Wendy G. Jensen is an award-winning professional basketmaker. She teaches basketmaking workshops in addition to exhibiting her work at juried craft shows and gallery exhibits. Her work was most recently published in *500 Baskets* by Lark Books. She was also recently included in *Early American Life* magazine's Directory of 200 Traditional Craftsmen.

Wendy has been making baskets for over twenty years professionally, a passion that continues to take her to places to learn more about the craft and the unending possibilities of weaving materials. Working primarily in rattan, a tropical vine that is commercially available, her designs incorporate hand-dyed accents with a variety of shapes and weaving techniques. All of her basket forms are shaped by hand without the use of molds. Wendy has been influenced by the historical splint basketmakers from this area, particularly the Shakers and Native Americans. Her mainly utilitarian baskets range in size from small berry collecting baskets to larger more involved lidded urns. She has also been growing her own basket willow for the last fifteen years. The growing of willow has sprouted her work into woven fences and garden trellises in addition to functional "farm" baskets. She has studied with several willow basketmakers from England, Latvia, and the United States. In 2006 she traveled to Ireland to study with Irish willow basketmaker and author Joe Hogan.

Ellen Grenadier has been making tableware and custom tiles and murals for over thirty years. After receiving a BA from Connecticut College, she studied salt glazing under a grant from the Tiffany Foundation and went on to become a cofounding member of Clay Dragon Studios, a clay cooperative in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Eighteen years ago, she moved her studio and gallery to Monterey, and the move to the Berkshires has deeply influenced her work. Ellen was head of the Ceramics Department at IS183, Art School of the Berkshires, for twelve years. She has been showing her functional clay work and custom tiles and murals throughout the United States in galleries, museums and at art shows.

At her studio, Grenadier Pottery on Tyringham Road, she is currently producing a line of stoneware that incorporates impressions from the natural world of the Berkshire Hills in elegant bowls, plates, sushi platters, and more. The energetic use of slips and glazes layered in the wet and bisqued state adds to the depth of the surface quality. Natural oxides and glazes are mixed at the studio using copper, cobalt, and iron to achieve the colors found in nature. No molds or forms are used; each finished piece is unique and intended to bring pleasure to the user.

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New Approvals for Garfield Shoreline/Dock Cleanups

The Monterey Conservation Commission has given approval for shoreline property owners to do hand pulling of several plant species and also for benthic barriers (bottom covers) around docks at Lake Garfield's shores. This three-year approval is good for this fall, and extends through the years 2013 and 2014.

Friends of Lake Garfield applied for this permission in response to extra heavy plant growth this year, making boating and swimming around docks difficult. There can be hand pulling, including root removal, of pondweed, elodea, water celery, and water buttercup, the plants allowed within the permit. FLG plans for information on plant identification of these, some of our most common shoreline nuisances.

The best time for placing benthic (bottom) covers is when the lake is down during or after drawdown (which begins October 15) and they can be securely anchored. However they can also be placed and secured when the lake is up.

These approvals will give shoreline owners the tools to make their lake access safer.

—Pat Edelstein for FLG

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Monterey Library Notes
Halloween Storytelling Oct. 31

The Monterey Library would like to thank Western Mass Library Advocates (formerly Friends of Western Mass Regional Library Systems) for the donation of two Big-E tickets, which in a random selection went to Amelia Curran!

Friday nights just became a little more convenient for library patrons—the trustees authorized the opening of the library until 8 pm so now you don't have to rush through dinner or get a ticket on the Taconic hoping to get to the library before it closes so you can get the Norman Rockwell Museum pass. Many thanks to Will Marsh for agreeing to work a four-hour shift.

Finally the Library would like to thank the Long Range Planning Committee for all their hard work over the past two years in coming up with a strategic plan which will be submitted to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. While we thank all patrons and non-patrons who participated in the forum and the survey, we especially would like to thank the committee, which met many times to identify areas in which the library can better serve the community. The committee consisted of Erica Stern, Doug Neu, Colleen Johnson, Jonah Carlson, Franny Huberman, Laurie Shaw, and Lois Storch. The staff of the library and the committee had a lot of fun coming up with ideas on how to improve the library. If the Commissioners deem the plan acceptable it will allow the library to apply for grants over the next five years.

Submissions Sought for Dec. Knox Gallery Community Exhibition

Mirrors of Winter: Light and Reflection to Brighten Winter Days will open in the Knox Gallery at the Monterey Library in early December. All Monterey residents and friends are invited to submit work in any media for this community exhibition. Leading up to the submission date please think about themes of reflective surfaces in both materials and imagery in your work. The holiday season—which blankets the darkest days of the year—is perfect for a light-infused group exhibition. Look for application and submission specifics next month in the November *Monterey News*.

On Halloween, Wednesday, October 31, at 4:30 pm, the library, with the help of the Monterey Parks Commission, will host a very special pre–Trick or Treat program by one of Monterey's favorite storytellers, John Porcino. You can check out his website, www.johnporcino@cohousing.com, and see why he has been coming to Monterey regularly for more than two decades. This special performance for all ages will be guaranteed not too scary for the young trick-or-treaters who will be parading the village after the performance. If you never get trick-or-treaters on your road this is your chance to see the kids of Monterey in costume!

—Mark Makuc, Library Director

ॐ

Bidwell House in October: Pumpkin Fest, Archaeology

The Bidwell House Museum is celebrating Pumpkin Fest, the museum's annual free family event, on Saturday of Columbus Day weekend (October 6) from 11 am to 2 pm. There will be fun and games for young children, such as pumpkin decorating, a hay mountain, seasonal food tasting, storytelling, and a fun science table. The event is hosted by the Garden Angels, volunteers who maintain the museum's flower and heirloom vegetable gardens under the direction of Ruth Green. Please note that the museum building is closed on this day. For more information, go to www.bidwellhousemuseum.org, or call 413-528-6888.

October is Massachusetts Archaeology Month, and on Saturday, October 13, we will explore archaeology on Bidwell grounds: Native Americans, the First Meeting House, and the Knox Trail. A guided walk exploring the traces of inhabitants and travelers of the area from earlier centuries will be led local historians George Emmons and Lion G. Miles. Please dress for the weather and bring water..

The walk is 1 mile, 1.5 hours. Meet at 10:00 am at the museum. This event is sponsored by Housatonic Heritage and the Bidwell House. For more information, go to www.heritage-hikes.org. Weather, cancellations will be available on the website or by calling 860-435-9505

Berkshires Farm to Table Oct. 7 at Triplex

Farmers, writers, a noted chef, and a farm-to-table promoter will take part in a panel discussion about our food culture and our local vision for the future on Sunday, October 7, at 11 am at the Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington. *Berkshire Magazine* is sponsoring the event, which is free and open to the public.

Our area has a unique culinary culture highlighted by dairy farming, orchards, and vegetables farming. As we sit back and take account of this year's harvest, we look to the future of agriculture, sustainable living, and the Berkshires.

September 15th's Outstanding in the Field event at Indian Line Farm in South Egremont is highlighted in the upcoming October issue of *Berkshire Magazine*. Berkshire County's first-ever culinary event of its kind brought to the forefront a much larger vision: Food serves as the symbiotic center point for conservationists who want to protect land, farmers who need to make a living, chefs who want locally fresh ingredients, businesses that want to promote tourism, and visitors who are drawn to the region's beauty. How do the Berkshires leverage these elements and receive greater recognition as a region of innovation and forward thinkers? Where are the trends pointing to for our local and national food culture? This also raises a sobering issue of how farmers survive with the challenge of expensive land, high cost of feed, inclement weather conditions, and the competition of much cheaper food.

Other questions to be discussed: Are we leading the trend? And is this food movement a fad? Are there more farmers in the Berkshires? How have innovations in farming impacted the way it's conducted? What are the challenges? More poignantly, is there a romance in farming?

The panelists will be Sean Stanton, Blue Hill Farm; Ted Dobson, Equinox Farm; Angela Cardinali, Berkshire Farm and Table founder; Felix Carroll, *Berkshire Magazine* writer; Brian J. Alberg, Red Lion Inn executive chef.

Anastasia Stanmeyer, editor of *Berkshire Magazine* will be the moderator.

—Anastasia Stanmeyer

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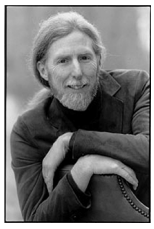

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The First of a Treasure Trove of Monterey Stories from Julius Miner

Prepared by Barbara Swann for the Monterey Historical Society

Julius Miner's daughter, Mrs. Frances Turner, has honored Monterey by presenting to our Historical Society not only some early photographs held in her family but also the gift of Julius Miner's recollections of Monterey as they were typed out in 1940. Some of us well remember the ways Julius Miner taught us and made us thankful for his gift of bringing history alive—by allowing us to peek through the wavy glass doors of the weights and measures cabinet, then in the General Store, to see the earliest documents of the town. His ancestors were among the first residents of Tyringham, now known as Monterey. He was a dear soul, and we are so grateful to Julius Miner's family for this treasure. As we scan his recollections, we will be offering them to you through the kindness of the *Monterey News*. This is the first "road" of the series.

Of course some houses Julius Miner mentions were missing even in 1940, but new houses have been constructed along the way between the center of Monterey and the Great Barrington town line since 1940. Exact placement of the houses he refers to is important, but we need more input from the elders of Monterey to place some of them. Then we can gather up all the stories we will be offering from Julius Miner's recollections, through the *Monterey News*, and possibly provide some maps to pinpoint the surviving houses.

His essays are offered without commentary in the main. When we can assist, we note likely corrections in brackets. Among the facts we do know is that "Brewer's up and down saw" (as opposed to the circular saw invented by the Shakers) was in a sawmill once located next to the current General Store on the Konkapot River. The sawmill's original dam held water over the ball field and where the Town Offices are. Mills below the sawmill often had to cease operation for the day if the sawmill used all the water to operate its saw. Note also that trees planted by children are visible but difficult to access.

The town's Corashire Schoolhouse now has a sign that reads "Avalon," as it was used later as the building for the private Avalon School. And as for the two murders Julius Miner mentions, we do know the second victim was Mr. Lafayette Batelle. He died as a result of a misplaced gag tied over his mouth after a robbery. The perpetrator was caught through a somewhat ingenious approach (at least by modern standards). It possibly merits a program by the Historical Society.

Mr. Miner's essays are entitled "Seeing Monterey: Walks Around Town with Julius D. Miner circa 1940,"originally sponsored by the "Monterey Cooperative League." From the beginning, with a foreword written by someone else:

Foreword

Monterey has great charm, having beautiful scenery and an interesting history. It was barely possible for Julius Miner to move a hundred yards in any direction in town without finding something worthy of comment concerning the flora or fauna or present or past history of the place.

Julius and his twin brother ran the Monterey (Langdon) store for many years. Those privileged to walk or ride with him as he delivered groceries knew how great was his interest and knowledge,

In 1940 after the urging of many friends and with the help of Herbert Peterson, a summer resident, he prepared the following series of walks and talks. In these he points out matters of interest which might otherwise be overlooked and tells stories which make for a better understanding and appreciation of our heritage.

[***And in Julius Miner's words:***]

The Congregational Church building at the village center was erected in 1847. At that time there had been such discussion as to its exact location, same favoring a site opposite the school house. Later came the choice of a bell. Several bells were brought and hung from the scaffolding with all of the people invited to give their opinions. Tones, keyes and timbre were contrasted. Today, as the church bells summon to worship, you will, we hope applaud the judgement exercised by the church members of 1847.

Going west on the Great Barrington road, note that first house on the right (present home of Nina Tryon) was moved there from the Tyringham road. Next to this house, where at present there is a garage there was at one time a general store selling among other things, silks, satins, braids, buttons and a line of fine dress goods. Parallel with the river was a long row of church sheds.

Opposite the church is a store, the Langdon Store, built in 1780. Notice the old sign on the building advertising moulded candles and lamp oil. (The shutters containing these old signs were restored about 1940 by Katherine Adams). The timbers for this building were cut by Brewer's up and down saw.

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On the right, back of the Tryon garage is a beautiful pretentious house with decorations under the front window made of split turned balusters. This house had a narrow porch with scroll ironwork under the eaves and reinforcing posts. It was built by the proprietor of the present store (Mr. Langdon). He had large barns and kept one hundred head of cattle. Back of the house was the first ice-house built in town. It had long overhanging eaves and the exterior was clapboarded as was the interior. Between the studding, the space was filled with crushed charcoal for insulation. The ice was cut in long strips on the lake, snaked out and blocked off. (This house is now owned by Ernest Westberg.)

Across the bridge, where the Grange Hall now stands, was previously the owner of another store which was across the road. This store sold cigars manufactured from tobacco grown in Monterey. A salesman was employed to travel and market them.

The next house on the left (the home of Mrs. Julius Miner) is over one hundred years old. Passing the next two houses on the right, we come to one whose owner made coffins. When a death occurred, the relatives hastened to place an order. This artisan was seldom unprepared as the tolling of the church bell gave him ample notice.

The next house on the right raised tobacco on the fields beyond his house. His large tobacco barns were, close at hand. Across the road stood another barn. Its owner brought up two young boys who were to become Cyrus W. Field and David Dudley Field.

Near the entrance to the former golf course once stood a very large chestnut tree.

Courtesy Monterey Historical Society, photographer unknown

Corashire School ca. 1950 (later Avalon School, now a private residence).

One day, in the depth of winter, a driver for a Springfield firm delivered candy at the local store and collected for it in small coins. As he neared this chestnut tree, his tallyho ran into a snow drift and upset. Elderly residents told how as children, they had great fun as the deep snows melted in searching the ground for pennies and other small coins, lost when the tallyho tipped over.

Soon we come to a house at a sharp turn to the left. The owner of a house which once stood there was reputed to own "the sweetest sugar bush" in town. That is, his maples yielded the most sugar per quart of sap. He was always late at haying. The local saying was that he "made" his hay in windrows, let it freeze and snaked it to his barn.

After passing the next cleared field, notice the public park. Some of these trees were set out by little children who are now leaving the grade schools. The next house on the left is where industrious ladies made shrouds, braided hat straws and trade straw hats. Theirs was beautiful work. Note an exhibit of Shaker straw hats to appreciate what they did.

The house on the right was built by a man who had a factory on the Konkapot River. In his foundry, he made iron stoves and soap stone stoves. Between the Gould Farm Road and the brook, there was a blacksmith shop.

On the left is the Corashire Schoolhouse [above, ca. 1950]. Many tales are told of happenings here, serious and amusing. One day a teacher felt something drop

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on her head. Raising her hand, she felt a snake. Some boy had made a hole in the ceiling above her desk and had dropped through a snake, fortunately a harmless garter snake.

After passing two houses, we see a big elm tree, under which stood a blacksmith shop. By the way, why were smithies so often built under the shade of great trees? Blacksmiths were often asked to make unusual objects. This smith was asked to make a pitchpipe. He was equal to it and pitched the pipe at the desired key. As a leader of the church choir, he knew just what was needed.

Past the next road to the right we see a cellar hole. The lady who last lived in the house on that site lived to be over 96 years of age.. When she received a letter from the Hopkins Institute as to the reason for her longevity she replied, "Hard work and plenty of it."

The stone house ahead on the left [probably on the right, not the left] was built of stone quarried from a field near by. This house has a number of beautiful old fireplaces. On the left a bit further is the old road used, before the building of the present one [a now private Stevens Lake entrance]. It continued to be used in winter until the new main road was hard surfaced, since it was under the hill and not effected by snow drifts.

Soon we see a road on our right. Approaching it, walk into the growth on the right a short distance and you will see an old iron mine. Look for specimens of iron ore. This ore was shipped away for smelting with charcoal and moulded into pig iron.

Charcoal making was one of the big industries of Monterey. Nearly every hillside has its charcoal pits. When you see a round level place about 30 feet across, look for bits of old charcoal. It is related that, out of curiosity, a woman counted one day the number of two horse charcoal wagons she passed between Hupi corner and the village center. The number was 23.

Next, on the right is a watering trough, supplied with excellent spring water. Ahead is a row of trees set out in competition for a prize offered by the Housatonic Agricultural Society of Great Barrington. On the road to the left, lived an old settler who vexed his neighbor. The neighbor struck him with an ox goad and killed him.

Opposite is another house with tragic memories. A sailor came here to end his days. A converted man, he used to pump the church organ. His long hair curling over his collar, his habit of going barefoot, his large earrings and his pleasant smile made him an object of kindly interest to all. One night he was attacked by a younger man, tied to his bed and killed. Possibly the motive was robbery of supposed wealth.

We are almost at the town line and five miles from the center of Monterey. ॐ

October 15 Deadline for Applications Tupelo Award

The Tupelo Award, a fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, offers individuals an opportunity to deepen and enrich an abiding passion or serious interest through study, travel, research, and development of a specific project. The opportunity must be one that will broaden the applicant's view of the world and expand his/her horizons. These grants are intended to make it possible for individuals to participate in an experience that will have significant potential to enrich their lives. The next deadline for applications for the Tupelo Award is October 15, 2012. The fund will award up to $1,500 this year.

Residents of the Berkshire Taconic region between the ages of 16 and 36 who demonstrate financial need and other sources of support for their chosen project are eligible. Applications are available online at www.berkshiretaconic.org/grantseekers and will be reviewed by Berkshire Taconic staff to ensure that eligibility requirements are met. A selection committee will then review the applications and make its determination based on established criteria.

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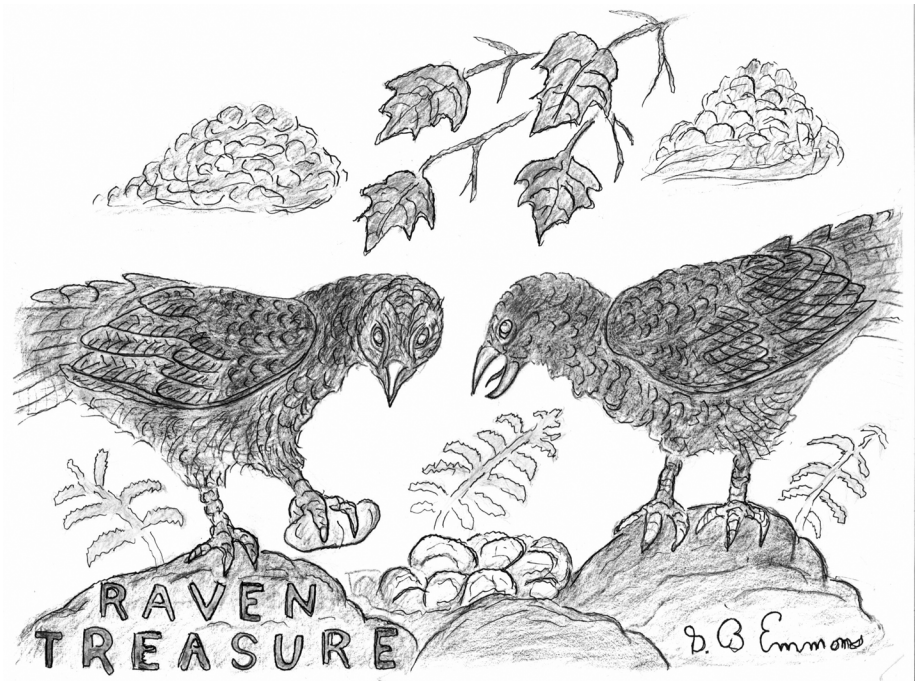
Stones Then and Now

The Wisconsin Glacier left a geological bounty of building blocks as it molded mountains above the valleys, carved watersheds into aquifers, and gouged out streambeds for lakes to fill rivers and drain the last of a melting ice age into the sea. The glacial fieldstones went into today's walls that define the passage of old country roads to former homestead destinations punctuated by the period of stone foundations. The sequence of collection and the technique of multiple constructions is best described in the book *Stone by Stone*, a literary landscape landmark by Robert Thorson, past lecturer at the Bidwell House Museum.

The Bidwell House Museum building and grounds are a treasure of remarkably preserved outside wall foundations, with four inside fireplaces and two beehive ovens The basement is dominated by a huge stone arch of a storage chamber. Outside, the grounds cover dry wells and drainage systems. A crude and partially hidden stone roadbed along the Royal Hemlock Trail leads past a maple-sugar-furnace chimney. The Meeting House Trail honors the foundation of the first Township church; then, beyond the Indian cairns, is a foundation site where Adonijah probably lived until his present residence could be finished.

Indian cairns here are commonly characteristic of human empirical hand construction, laid out similar to grave-



yard plots, a respectful distance apart in numbers of a single family, but multiple others for clans. This pattern is also found in Tyringham, Monterey, Sandisfield, New Marlborough, and Sheffield. The most recent finding in Otis was with the help of Dennis Sears and Ray Coddington! Special thanks to Barry Hawley's Otis history book about a cave used by early Tunxis Indians, which we found as described overlooking Hayes Pond; from it burial mounds are clearly visible. The most complete authority on this subject is a journal of Reference Materials on Native American Stone Cairns written by William Cothren, in 1872.

Another surprising use of stones surfaced upon the cairn collection in Sheffield, where Dennis Sears and I noticed that the structure of many of the cairns incorporated occasional ceremonial quartzite. However the top of one cairn had a different collection of many smaller bright stones. Then we both remembered that ravens commonly collect and deposit objects of their fancy, to come back later and savor their treasure Ravens are also known to pick up and drop stones at intruders nearing their nests. Native American mention is more than a coincidence, as Cherokees and others believed that the so-called "Mocker Raven" was a supernatural evil spirit.

In October we will celebrate Columbus Day, a pivotal date for first Americans. October is also Massachusetts Archaeology Month. Come to the Bidwell House Museum at 10 am on Saturday, October 13, for an archaeological walk and talk with me (on Henry Knox), Rob Hoogs (on Township # 1, Richard Green's historic trails), and Lion Miles (on Mohican history). All this plus past and present stones—it promises to be an outdoor exercise of informative recreation.

—George B. Emmons

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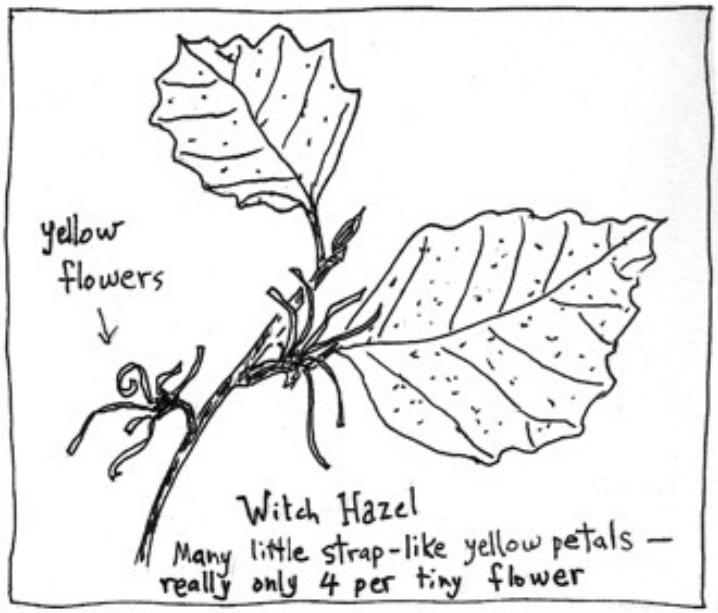
Witch Hazel and the Woman in a Tent

There was a woman in a tent. She had a lantern and books, also collecting gear and a passion for all things wild, the out-of-doors. Summers she pitched her tent in the Adirondacks near the Schroon River, also near a camp her sister ran for girls who loved to dance. This sister spent the winters in Syracuse, running a dancing school, and in the summer "her girls" followed her to the woods and kept on dancing. During this time, the other sister, the one in the tent, stayed nearby and made sure the dance girls learned something about the wild, so they could be sure to put that into their dances.

The tent woman, Maude Helen Park, took her notes and collections home to Boston in the winter and wrote nature columns for the *Boston Herald*. She carried books back and forth, including *The New Nature Library*, 1900, which comprised ten volumes and cost $20 in 1922 when she got her set. There were not so many pocket-sized field guides back in these days, with their terse prose (if any), dichotomous keys, and spare sketches. The volume of *The New Nature Library* on plants, *Nature's Garden* by Neltje Blanchan, is 415 pages long and weighs more than 2½ pounds. It gives color plates and full-page black and white photos "by Henry Troth and A. Radclyffe Dugmore," and plenty of prose. *The Tree Book*, from the same set, was written a few years later by Julia Ellen Rogers.

I have both these books, and my copy of *The Tree Book* contains quite a few leaves pressed between its historic pages. Today I looked up witch hazel, since it is blooming all around our house just now. There, at page 274, is a sturdy old leaf pressed right against Dugmore's black and white photos. Rogers tells us:



"Every tree has its supreme moment of beauty. This usually comes when the foliage is at its prime, or when the flower buds burst in spring. The witch hazel is an exception to all rules. When the crisp autumnal atmosphere warns all plant life to get ready for winter the witch hazel trees put a new construction on the message. As if by magic, all up and down through the woods they burst into bloom, each flower bravely flaunting four delicate petals like tiny yellow streamers. The woods are fairly sprinkled with these starry, gold-thread blossoms, and a rare fragrance breathes upon the languid October air. The ripening leaves second and intensify the colour of the flowers, which often thickly fringe the outstretched twigs, and cover up the green buttons."

These buttons, we learn are the pods that carry seeds which began forming the previous year. When the first frost comes, they will burst open, flinging their two shiny black seeds as far as twenty feet from the tree.

Rogers tells us the name *witch* comes from the Old English *wych*, meaning "weak," which refers to the slim and sprawling structure of the tree. To the English "wych hazel" is an Old World elm. This tree had the power to find water, when the right forked branch was held by a dowser. According to Rogers, the hazel wand was also used in mining districts to determine where to dig for coal or metal. The success of this divination depended upon both the person holding the wand and the wand itself, which had to be in the shape of a "Y," or forked twig, in which the Y was oriented north and south as it grew on the tree. This assured that both the rising and setting sun shone well through the prongs of the Y, as it grew,

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giving it the power to determine what can be found underground.

As if this were not enough, the New World witch hazel, which divines just as well as the Old World variety, has medicinal properties. Humphreys Witch Hazel Astringent has stood on a shelf in our bathroom medicine cabinet my whole life so far. It has always been manufactured in East Hampton, Connecticut, and always will, I feel sure.

Julia Ellen Rogers gives the "national formulary" or recipe used by druggists back in her day. You need 10 pounds of witch hazel roots and twigs, 20 pints of water, and 1½ pints of alcohol. After a certain amount of distilling and "macerating," you'll get your own witch hazel extract, which you can use on bruises and strains, also burns.

I'm closing up the book, now, putting my hand gently on that sturdy old leaf. It was collected and saved by Maude Helen Park McAllester, the woman in the tent by the Schroon River. Though she died the week I was born, this grandmother has always lived with me in her books, her field notes, the leaves she saved, and the passion she passed along.

—Bonner J. McAllester

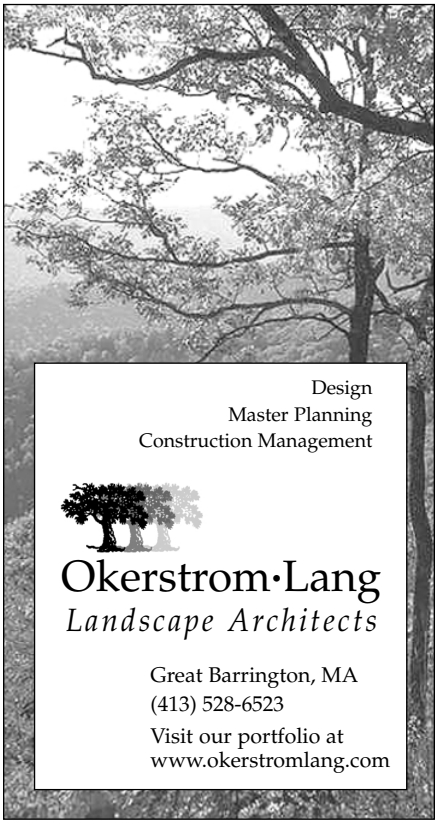
Dr. Richard Levin Named President, CEO of Arnold P. Gold Foundation

After an extensive search, the Arnold P. Gold Foundation (www.humanism-in-medicine.org) of Englewood Cliffs, NJ, selected Dr. Richard I. Levin, a longtime Monterey resident, as the first external President and CEO of the Gold Foundation. An internationally recognized physician scientist, scholar, cardiologist, and educator, Dr. Levin has a remarkable range of experience leading academic medical institutions in the joint missions of education, research, patient care and advocacy, and voluntary health organizations in program and philanthropic development. He is currently a Senior Scholar in Residence at the Association of Academic Health Centers in Washington, DC, and was previously Vice Principal for Health Affairs and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at McGill University in Montreal, as well as Vice Dean for Education, Faculty and Academic Affairs at New York University. The author of numerous papers, Dr. Levin has lectured widely in the United States and abroad and is the past recipient of honors both in the U.S. and Canada. He has been a national board member and officer of numerous professional U.S. organizations including past President of the New York and Heritage affiliates of the American Heart Association.

In contemplating this new position at a difficult moment in foundation philanthropy Levin said, "Medicine in America is at a tipping point and has begun a revitalization that will transform healthcare, making the patient-doctor relationship even more intimate and important than it has been. Just as the Renaissance allowed the establishment of humanism as a philosophy, this renaissance in medicine in the Century of Biology will require an even greater focus on humanistic aspects of care. The Gold Foundation is perfectly positioned to lead this revival. I am deeply honored to be selected as President and CEO by the Board of Trustees, including founder and immediate past President, Dr. Sandra O. Gold."

In response to Dr. Levin's appointment, Board Chair, Jordan J. Cohen, MD, immediate past President of the Association of American Medical Colleges, commented, "In the past twenty years, Drs. Arnold and Sandra Gold have created a unique organization that emphasizes the importance of compassion, empathy, good communication, and cultural awareness on the outcomes of patient care. As we imagine the expansion of the foundation's mission, we are thrilled to welcome Dr. Levin to the Gold Foundation where he can help weave the idea of optimal, caring, patient-centered medicine into the more efficient and less costly models of delivery that must be invented."

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, established in 1988, is a not-for- profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of healthcare by enhancing the doctor-patient relationship. It encourages the development of physicians who combine the high-tech skills of cutting-edge medical science with the high-touch skills of communication, empathy, and compassion.



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"Garden Gustation"

What's Cooking from Monterey Gardens & Farms

Wrestling with Raspberries

What's going on with the raspberries? Our raspberries have never had a season like this one. Our canes were pathetic, not sure if it was the open winter or the drought or something else. We have had these raspberry plants, or offspring thereof, for over thirty years. We dug some and brought them with us from Great Barrington four years ago. They made the transition well and have been fruiting voluminously since, except this year. We have an everbearing variety which I think I remember as "Heritage." The beauty of the everbearing varieties is that you actually get two pickings from the same plants. The previous year's canes, floricanes (two-year canes), will offer up a few berries around July, and the new canes (primocanes) will burst with larger and more plentiful berries in September. They will bear fruit until heavy frost usually finishes them. The new canes can grow up to about seven feet tall, and it can be tricky to keep them all gathered up so that picking is still possible. Stephen built a trellis for the raspberries with posts at each end and wires strung at two different heights to contain the canes (photo). In late fall or early spring, we prune the primocanes to about three to four feet and cut the floricanes almost flush to the ground.

I admit we haven't been good about getting out picking as often as we should, but I went out one morning recently hoping

Stephen Moore

to fill a bowl for breakfast and there wasn't a red berry to be found. We had been away for a couple of days so I clearly expected to have enough for breakfast. What I found was something I've never seen before . . . there were Yellow Jackets, at least five or six on any raspberry that was almost ripe. No red berries to be found. What a disappointment. Someone told me that Gould Farm was experiencing a similar dilemma. We particularly like to drizzle a bowl of fresh raspberries with some maple syrup and then pour some fresh milk over them . . . yum! Not to mention raspberry jam, smoothies, raspberry tarts and pies.

It doesn't look like we will be harvesting many raspberries this year, but that will give us an opportunity to use up the ones still in the freezer from last year. We will look forward to wrestling with the raspberries again next year.

Lemon Raspberry Coffee Cake

(*Underlined ingredients are ours or local.*)

This recipe was given to me but I believe it came from a *Better Homes & Garden* magazine.

Cake

1½ cups flour
1½ tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. baking soda
Pinch of salt
1 cup sugar
½ cup butter, room temperature
1 egg
1 tsp. vanilla
½ cup plain yogurt mixed with ¼ cup milk or ¾ cup buttermilk

Filling

3 oz. softened cream cheese
¼ cup sugar
1 tsp. lemon peel
1 egg
1cup fresh or frozen raspberries
Powdered sugar (optional)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Line a

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nine-inch round cake pan with parchment and grease and flour.

For the cake: Beat 1 cup sugar and butter until smooth. Add egg and vanilla, beat one minute. Add flour and yogurt/milk mixture alternately until just combined, starting and ending with flour.

For the cheese filling: Beat cream cheese and ¼ cup sugar until smooth. Add lemon peel and 1 egg and beat until smooth.

Spread ½ of cake batter into pan. Spread cream cheese filling on top of batter. Dollop remaining cake batter onto cheese filling and spread carefully.

Bake 20 minutes or until slightly puffed and gently press raspberries into cake and bake 25–30 minutes more until toothpick comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes and remove from pan. Top with confectioner's sugar if desired.

Until next time . . . anyone ready for some comfort food?

—Wendy G. Jensen
wendygj@gmail.com

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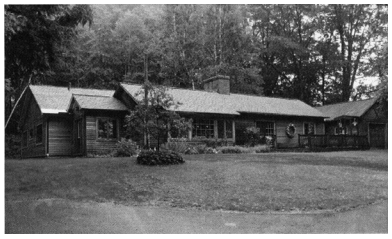

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Monarch emerging from chrysalis, beside another chrysalis. (Photo by Susan Sellew)

From the Meetinghouse
A Deeper Order

Two members of the Stevens Lake Homeowners Association walked into the Monterey General Store at the same time. Sounds like a set up for a bad joke, doesn't it? Instead, the moment opened in a rather delicious way.

It was the day after the opening. Jim Mazza and I had both just strolled through the door, so I was present when he said to Scott, "Guess what: the story this morning under the heading 'Massachusetts' in *USA Today* is the re-opening of the Monterey General Store!" It seems our little town center loomed larger than normal for a moment.

Which reminds me of two much more universal and apparently larger-than-usual events: the autumn full moons we call the Harvest Moon and the Hunter's Moon. I'd thought the Harvest Moon was the October full moon, but that's not always so. Technically, it's the full moon following closest after the Fall Equinox. The September 29th Harvest Moon is already behind us.

Beautiful as it is, the moon isn't really getting larger or more colorful as it rises over the horizon at this time of year. Those are tricks of perception, a combination of atmosphere, line of sight, other details: truth of a factual order. But our experience of awe under the influence of our nearby neighbor is also truth. It's a reality of a different, some might say deeper, order than the truths recognized by linear thinking.

This month's full moon, the Hunter's Moon, shines on October 29. Even though the moon may spend that night under cloud cover, she's not smaller or less radiant when we don't see the reflected light she offers. That's just another trick of perception, one we can use any way we like. Hmm. Maybe the moon really is made of green cheese. If so, Scott probably has some on hand at the store.

—Mary Kate Jordan

ॐ

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Julio Rodriguez, Bob Lazzarini, Gige O'Connell. (Photos by Michael Johnson)

Monterey Wii Bowling

Hello sport fan's! Here's what's going on in the world of Wii Bowling. Your Monterey Seniors have been bowling it out with over 241 teams in 35 State's. That's over 1261 bowler's, and boy did we have fun!

Here is your 2012 Monterey Senior Bowling Team:

Julio Rodriguez had an average of 125, with 11 strikes and 25 spares, and was ranked 1069 within the National Senior League.

Mary Makuc had an average of 138, with 9 strikes and 13 spares, and was ranked 1019 within the National Senior League.

Georgiana O'Connell had an average of 140, with 13 strikes and 23 spares, and was ranked 1005 within the National Senior League.

Steve Pullen had an average of 158, with 14 strikes and 22 spares, and was ranked 879 within the National Senior League.

Muriel Lazzarini had an average of 146, with 9 strikes and 12 spares, and was ranked 966 within the National Senior League.

Bob Lazzarini had an average of 167, with 5 strikes and 8 spares, and was ranked 777 within the National Senior League.

It should be noted that there are only two teams from Massachusetts; the other one is in Methuen, near the New Hampshire line, which has a population of 47,255.

We had a great time and will be celebrating with a banquet at Town Hall on October 17 to show these seniors just how much we appreciate the job they did in the Senior Bowling League.

We are working with the Parks Department to put together a winter league that will be open to all ages. More information will be coming out as we put it together.

Also to all Monterey seniors: we will have a spring league that will start in February, so watch your *Monterey News* for updates—and remember to say good job to the seniors from the fall league.

—Michael Johnson,
Monterey Council on Aging

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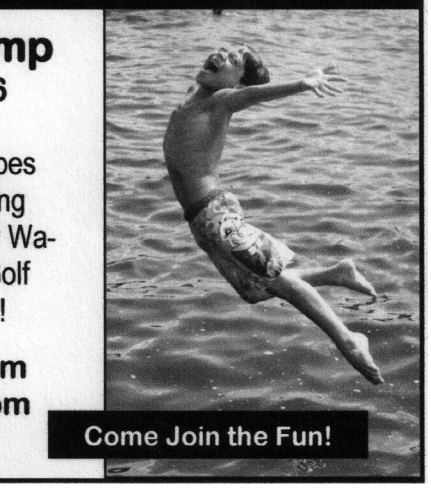

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Informational Meeting on Massachusetts Tax System

State Representative Smitty Pignatelli is hosting an informational meeting presented by Joint Committee on Revenue Chairman Jay Kaufman on the tax system in Massachusetts.

Chairman Jay Kaufman will join local town managers, administrators, select boards, finance committee members, and school administrators as well as the general public on Friday, October 12, in the Lenox Town Hall from 1:00 to 3:00 pm to discuss the elements of good tax policy as well as how state and local taxes impact us all and what's next for the commonwealth.

Please join Rep. Pignatelli as Chairman Kaufman spells out revenue and tax expenditures and explains the latest tax expenditure budget reforms.

Personal Notes

Congratulations to **Leona Chamberlin**, **Catherine Mielke**, and **Raymond Tryon**, three respected elders of the Monterey community, who all celebrated birthdays in September.

ॐ

P.O. Box 9 01245

Israel-Palestinian Issue

To the Editor:

Monterey, it was very interesting to receive your feedback on our personal observations from the West Bank, both in print and conversation. Thank you. We learned a lot. We persist in our concern for justice and equality in Israel and Palestine, and as Americans we will continue to urge our government to promote these ideals in ALL its foreign and domestic policies.

Several people questioned the accuracy of the maps we included, which documented continued confiscation of West Bank territory from Palestinian-administered land to settlements and Israeli military control. These maps are available through Americans for Peace Now. Their data source is the UN Office of Humanitarian Assistance (UNOCHA), which actually offers much more detailed maps illustrating the same land loss: http://www.ochaopt.org/maps.aspx?id=20

Those of you who would like to learn more about the situation in Israel/Palestine can read:

AvramBerg,NYTimes_BJN_AD.pdf, published 08/04/2012

Haaretz, English edition

Americans for Peace Now, News Nosh

For those of you who would like to participate in further discussion of how to improve the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, please contact us at future.palestine12@gmail.com.

There is no way to peace. Peace is the way. (M. Ghandi)

—Carol Husten, Julio Rodriguez, Pat Salomon

To the Editor:

I read/am reading with great appreciation all the articles and letters contributed by local folks regarding the Palestine/Israel conflict. Thank you for your courage in publishing them; above all it is notable that differences can be expressed and examined in our time and place without fear—and you have provided and continue to provide a graceful container for expressing the ordinary and extraordinary, albeit varied, experiences and visions of your readers—our community. This is a significant act in times of strife anywhere; thank you for holding to such helpful works.

—Greenwind DeCelle, Monterey

ॐ

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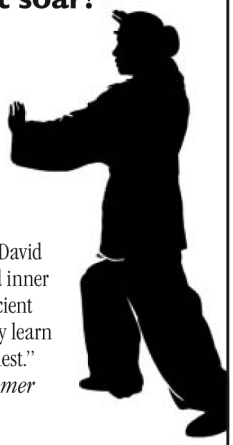

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Wildlife in September

Crossing the Roads: Mountain Lions to Red Efts

Kyle Pierce called toward the end of the month with a rare kind of excitement. She had just seen a mountain lion cross Route 23, down near the place where the Appalachian Trail goes across. Kyle was headed home from Great Barrington, and the lion walked unconcernedly across the road and then leaped up onto the bank and the wild lands beyond, an effortless bound about four feet off the ground. Kyle had stopped to watch and was confident the lion was in no hurry, not perturbed by the nearby motorist. As with so many (but not ALL) accounts like this, Kyle's story left me no doubt about what she had seen.

Another big cat crossed the road the first week in September, this time on Corashire Road as Sue Protheroe was driving along with a friend. This was a bobcat, *Lynx rufus*, smaller and more often seen in these parts than *Felis concolor*, the mountain lion.

Sue also reports pied-billed grebes on Lake Buel and ring-billed gulls. Along the roads after a rain she has been seeing red efts and ring-necked snakes. These little snakes can be hard to distinguish from large night crawlers (worms) but they do have rings around their necks and yellow-orange bellies. Sue's bird report includes

Maureen Banner

Moth on the Banners' window.

the news that the hummingbirds have been gone since September 14, with the males leaving first and the females a bit later.

No one has reported any bears this past month, but I see to my surprise I forgot to mention one back in early July, on Griswold Road. This was seen by Terry Myers and he got a good photo.

Here at our house we have straightened up our slanting bird-feeder pole and reprovisioned the feeder. We have daytime chickadees and by night: a flying squirrel. You can tell it by its flash of white, the belly, as it swoops in. Our young cat inside the kitchen window is wildly excited. Wildlife can have this effect.

Please send me your reports,.

—Bonner McAllester 528-9385, bmca@berkshire.net

October Sandisfield Historical Society Events

The annual Apple Fest will be held on Saturday, October 6, from 10 am to 2 pm on Route 183 (113 Sandy Brook Turnpike) in South Sandisfield. Some great items will be for sale, including homemade baked goods, hotdogs, hamburgers, "The 250th Cookbook," and items from other vendors.

The annual Wine and Cheese Party will be held on Sunday, November 4, from 2 to 4 pm on Route 183 in South Sandisfield. The event is free and everyone is welcome.

For information on either event call Jo Freedman at 258-4786 or email freedmj1@aol.com.

Contributors

Thanks to the following folks for their recent contributions.

Eileen Brennan
Jesse & Liz Goodman
Valerie Salerno
Kathleen DeCelle & Isabeth Hardy
Susan Sellew
Edward Hall
Chandler Crawford
Laura Dubester & Alan Silverstein
Malinka Jackson

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Saturday, October 27 8pm $20
Finger Lakes Guitar Quartet
Joel Brown returns to SArC with former students!
OCTOBER

Calendar

Every Monday except holidays: Select Board meeting, Town Hall, 9 am.

Every Tuesday: Zumba Class, 5:30–6:30 pm, Monterey Firehouse. $10/class.

Saturday, October 6:

Pumpkin Fest, 11 am–2 pm, Bidwell House Museum, Free, fun family activities. See p. 11.

Music & More presents a discussion with authors Liza Mundy, Andrew Nagorski, and Peter Cameron, 4:30 pm, New Marlborough Meeting House, Route 57. Information and tickets: newmarlborough.org, or 413-229-2785.

Sandisfield Apple Fest, 10 am to 2 pm, Route 183 (113 Sandy Brook Turnpike), South Sandisfield. Information: 258-4786 or email freedmj1@aol.com.

Sunday, October 7: Berkshires Farm to Table, panel discussion our food culture, 11 am, Triplex Cinema, Great Barrington. Free. See p. 11.

Monday, October 8: Columbus Day observed; Town Offices, Library closed.

Thursday, October 11: Seasonal Flu Shot Clinic with Berkshire Visiting Nurse Assoc., Town Hall Meeting Room, 1:30–2:30 pm, See p. 11.

Friday, October 12:

Artists' Reception for Woven and Fired, an exhibit of baskets by Wendy Jensen and ceramics by Ellen Grenadier, 6–8 pm, Knox Gallery. See p. 9.

Informational Meeting on Massachusetts Tax System hosted by Rep. Smitty Pignatelli, 1 to 3 pm, Lenox Town Hall. See p. 21.

Monterey News

The Monterey News is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also sent to the email address below. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4347 or e-mail montereynews9@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 13: Guided walk on Bidwell House grounds exploring traces of earlier inhabitants and travelers, led by local historians George Emmons and Lion G. Miles. Meet at 10 am at museum. See p. 11.

Monday October 15:

Lake Garfield drawdown begins.

Deadline for Monterey and Otis Cultural Councils grant applications. See p. 7.

Deadline for submitting WiredWest support card to show interest in high-speed Internet service. See p. 8.

Tuesday, October 16: Meeting to give public input to SBRSD Task Force on future of district outlying schools, 6:30 pm, Monterey Town Hall. See p. 4.

Wednesday, October 17: Community Potluck Dinner, 6 pm, Monterey Meetinghouse Fellowship Hall. Program by Alex Tinari on bees and beekeeping. Everyone welcome. See p. 6.

The Observer

August 26 – September 25

High temp. (8/31)	81°
Low temp. (9/24)	37°
Avg. high temp.	70.8°
Avg. low temp.	48.9°
Avg. temp.	59.9°
Total rainfall	9.18 in.

Rainfall occurred on 7 days.

Sunday October 21: Songwriting Workshop with Robin O'Herin and Andy Kelly, 6–8 pm, Monterey Meetinghouse. Free, . See p. 7.

Monday, October 22: Meeting to give public input to Monterey School Building Study Committee on future of Monterey School, 5:30 pm, Monterey Town Hall. See p. 4.

Monday, October 29: Adult book group will discuss *King Peggy* by Peggielene Bartels and Eleanor Herman, 7:30 pm, Monterey Library. Newcomers welcome.

Tuesday, October 30: Chair Yoga class with Connie Wilson, 10:30 am, Town Hall meeting room. Free to Monterey residents, $7 nonresidents. See p. 6.

Wednesday, October 31: Pre–Trick or Treat program by storyteller John Porcino, 4:30 pm, Monterey Library. See p. 10.

Sunday, November 4: Sandisfield Historical Society Wine and Cheese Party, 2 to 4 pm, Route 183, South Sandisfield. Information: 258-4786 or email freedmj1@aol.com.

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Treasurer ..... Mari Enoch

Contributions from local artists this month:
Maureen Banner, 11, 19, George Emmons, 15; Tristian Goik, 7; Bonner McAllester, 16; Leah Weisgal, 5.

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